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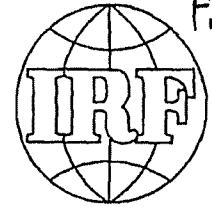
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Mr. Faud Rihani
Saudi BinLadin Group
4320 4th Street Circle, N.W.
Hickory, N.C. 28601

Dear Mr. Rihani:

Thank you very much for your letter of August 4 and your kind words on my election to the presidency of IREF. It is a great honor but also a great challenge and it is only through the generosity of firms like Saudi BinLadin Group that we will be able to continue the success of the Fellowship Program into the future.

Your contribution of \$10,000 to the IREF Future Fund is very generous and greatly appreciated. I understand the IRF staff in Washington has submitted a pledge form and instructions to you.

Thanks again for your support and I look forward to seeing you at Traverse City later this month.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Gerald P. Shea
International Road Education Foundation

slj

bcc: John Gehrett
Dana Low
Wayne McDaniel